

WHY BOYS AND GIRLS LEAVE FARM FOR CITY

Miss Bernice Carter Makes Practical Suggestions as to How the Trouble May Be Remedied.

Movement after movement to defeat the rapid removal of boys and girls from the rural districts to the city have been started; remedy after remedy for this condition has been advanced; Many of these movements and remedies have been practical and others absurd; but Miss Bernice Carter, assistant in charge of girls' club work in Texas, working jointly with the United States department of agriculture and the Extension department of the A. and M. College, says there is something more than the gay lights and the alluring life of the city that is attracting the boys and girls from the farm.

And Miss Carter knows. She was born on a farm and reared there until she went away to college. She says that there is something wrong at the average farm home and until that something is remedied that boys and girls will be dissatisfied with home life

and will go to the cities. "Make the farm home life as attractive as the city home life is supposed to be; feed the boys and girls better food; brighten up the house, lift some of the heavy drudgery from their shoulders, improve their educational advantages, make the boys feel that a farmer's work is a man's work and the girl feel that a farmer's wife is a high and noble position; then and not until and not until then you will find a big percentage of the boys and girls will remain at home, becoming the farmers and farmers' wives of the future." Those are some of the ideas advanced by Miss Carter.

Miss Carter was born on a farm. She had ample opportunity to observe some of the hardships of girls and boys who were less fortunate and lived on tenant farms. "I saw something of the hardships they endured and I know just how barren of pleasure their lives were," she said. "Walls, in many instances, were papered with newspapers by some energetic and progressive girl. Those girls were not to be satisfied long with the home-life they lived. Their fathers and mothers walked the same path day in and year out. Meals were the same the year around and the only real joy they experienced was when a picnic was held, a singing given or

some other attraction that always led them away from home."

And it was in those early days that Miss Carter decided to do something for the girl on the farm. And so two years ago while she was student in the State Normal at Denton she was made county supervisor for Denton County girls' canning clubs. In her two years there the exhibit prepared by her girls won first prize at Dallas at the State Fair and at the Waco Cotton Palace. In that exhibit were 250 varieties of canned fruits and vegetables grown and canned by Denton County girls. In the homes represented by these girls canned fruits and vegetables were available for the table at all seasons of the year.

Recently, Miss Bettie Rogers, assistant state agent in charge of girls club work resigned. "We want a young woman who is capable and thoroughly in sympathy with the work, who knows conditions," said the United States department of agriculture. "So do we," chimed in the officials of the A. and M. College extension department. And Miss Carter was the logical person.

The work of these clubs has already been extended to fourteen new counties, making a total of thirty-two counties now instructing girls in the production of fruits and vegetables and in canning them. Not only are the girls taught an important feature of good housekeeping, but they have shown their fathers and mothers a new avenue to successful farming. One of these girls, Miss Annie Davis of Jefferson grew and canned enough tomatoes on one-tenth of an acre to stock the family larder for a year. The Davis family is now enjoying tomato soup, plain tomatoes and dozens of other delicacies as the result of this girl's work. But listen, in addition, she sold 1000 two-pound cans of tomatoes for \$120.55. Estimating cost of fertilizer, rent on the one-tenth of an acre and every other expense at a maximum rate, this girl cleared \$89.45; pretty nice for a girl on one-tenth of an acre. Moreover, she won in prizes \$107.50 and a trip to Washington, a fund of \$125 being set aside for that expense.

But Miss Carter, who directs the work of these lady agents, believes in modern plain canning and production instruction. "Balanced rations for families, proper ventilation and sanitation of rural homes, decoration and improvement of the home, the yard; in a word, good housekeeping, will be stressed to the fullest extent by these evangelists, who are the circuit riders for an improved home life in rural communities. One of these days those workweeks will meet with a club in the extreme northern portion of the county, encouraging them in their work and offering instruction and the next day they will be clear across the county engaged in similar work with another club.

"But its in the interest of our boys and our girls and who cares for hardship or discouragements when their interests are at stake," say these workers.

At present there are 2219 girls enrolled in these clubs. Many of them are daughters of wealthy farmers and many of them come from poorer homes.

TEXAS INDUSTRIAL NOTES

(By Commercial Secretaries.)
Byers.—Actual work on the construction of the \$30,000 bridge across Red river, four miles north of here, has begun and is being pushed to an early completion. This bridge will be 1700 feet long with a sixteen-foot roadway and known as the 98th Meridian bridge.

Dallas.—B. B. Cain, president of the Texas Business Men's Association, has appointed Homer D. Wade, O. E. Dunlap and W. T. Wilson as delegates to the American Builder's Association, which will be conducted in Philadelphia, Pa., December 9 to 12 inclusive.

Garland.—At a recent meeting of the local Commercial Club, W. D. McCallum was elected secretary for the ensuing year. This organization has been very active during the past year and the city has benefited much through its efforts.

Commerce.—The women of this city have organized a civic improvement league, as an adjunct to the Board of Trade. Plans are under way for a big campaign for the general improvement of the town. The city park will be beautified, sanitary drinking fountains installed, and streets generally improved.

San Angelo.—Citizens of this place are endeavoring to raise a \$150,000 bonus to secure the proposed railroad between this point and Kerrville and no effort is being spared in this work. Bird M. Johnson of New York City is the projector of this new line and says that construction will begin immediately after the required amount

is raised by the people.

Walnut Springs.—The local Commercial Club has reorganized and begun its work with a new vim and vigor and has started off by employing a secretary. The club also has embodied several new features in its work, among them being a campaign for new industries. Good roads will also receive attention at the hands of the organization.

Hartley.—Forty-five head of full blood Karakule sheep were sold last week by the Middlewater Cattle Company of this county to a breeder of fine sheep in Charlottetown, P. E. I., for a consideration of \$13,000. This is the largest price ever paid for Karakule sheep in Hartley County and probably the State.

Sulphur Springs.—The first copy of The Morning Telegram, a new publication launched here, was issued December 1. This paper is edited by Joe J. Murray and the initial copy was replete with news and other modern features.

Kingsville.—A number of citizens of this county are perfecting plans for the organization of a permanent county fair. It is the intention of those interested to erect large exhibit halls and other facilities for this purpose.

Sherman.—The Texas and Pacific Railway Company has begun the laying of 75-pound steel rails on the Transcontinental division of the road. The first stretch of the new work is from this place eastward about thirty miles. The track is also being resurfaced as the steel is laid.



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EXPENSIVE ROYALTY

London, Dec. 10.—Since so much has been printed about the financial difficulties of the German Emperor of Germany, English socialists have been studying the cost of royalty to the British people. The lesser lights of the royal family cost the nation a pretty penny, it is shown. The extra amount of \$530,000, of which King George takes \$100,000 (in addition to his civil list of \$2,350,000. A generation of Queen Victoria's

descendants have still to be provided for at the same generous rate. They include Princess Christian, Prince Louise, Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Dowager Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and the Duchess of Albany. All a sum of \$820,000 is paid to King and Queen and the heir to the British throne. Later on the income of \$50,000 apiece will have to be paid to the King's four younger sons and Princess Mary. Queen Mary \$50,000 and King Edward's three daughters \$30,000 each.



Scene from "Madame Sherry," at the Colonial Theatre, Saturday Night, December 13.

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